

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Zephaniah prophesies that the Lord will punish wicked nations along with Jerusalem, but he will shelter from his anger those who practice justice and humility and do no wrong.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Paul tells the Corinthians that God prefers the humble, the weak, the lowly of station — people like themselves. In Christ Jesus they will find wisdom, honor and justice.



Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes in his Sermon on the Mount. He extols those who are merciful, peaceful, lowly, poor in spirit and promises them that “the reign of God is theirs.”



For the Week of January 29th through February 4th

Sunday

Zep 2:3, 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a

Monday

Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday

Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday

Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18;

Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

First Friday

Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

First Saturday

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 28th

4:00 p.m.

Marie Gruber

Sunday, January 29th

8:00 a.m.

Ray Brilz

10:00 a.m.

John P. McMahon, Jr.

Monday January 30th

8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 31st

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Wednesday February 1st

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Thursday, February 2nd

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Friday, February 3rd

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Saturday, February 4th

4:00 p.m.

Betty Coleman

Sunday, February 5th

8:00 a.m.

For our parishioners, living and deceased

10:00 a.m.

Jack DePoulter

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE

PARISH: Remember in your prayers the sick of

the parish: *John*

Troffo, Valerie

Lindyberg, Patricia

Dana, Bob Dunn,

Elizabeth Montague,

Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Jennifer Willis, Delores

Carmen, Ed Kolsun, Agnes Knoedler, and all those

whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS located in the front foyer.



NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 5:1-12



Reflection for Families: Living the beatitudes is nothing new for parents. We often set our needs and desires aside in order to care for others, especially our children.

Our greatest challenge, however, is to be a living witness to the first beatitude. If we understand and live out being “poor in spirit,” the rest falls into place. For to be “poor in spirit,” we rely completely on God. We know what the present situation holds, but recognize that there is a greater glory to come in God’s Kingdom.

Bringing the Gospel into your Family: Make a list of some (or all eight) of the beatitudes described in today’s Gospel. In words every family member can understand, give an interpretation of each beatitude’s meaning. Go through a family photo album and point out how people in your immediate and extended family live out these beatitudes.

Discussion Starters

1. It’s not always easy to do what’s right. Once in particular, I remember ...
2. One thing that brings me great happiness inside is...
3. I hope to help others (or myself) find true happiness by...

Adult Faith Formation

Bishop Robert Barron’s **SEVEN DEADLY SINS AND SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES** is the perfect Lenten experience!

Pride, envy, anger, sloth, greed, gluttony and lust: these “seven deadly sins” are patterns of dysfunction that keep us separated from God and ultimately lead to unhappiness. Join us as we embark on Fr. Robert Barron’s exploration of these seven sinful patterns and also learn how practicing countervailing virtues can break the cycle of sin.

On **February 7th and 8th**, our parish will begin the *Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues* program. This 8 week study program will be offered on two separate days and times:

Tuesdays from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Or, Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. For fullest participation, a purchased workbook (\$15.00) is recommended.

To preview this 8-week study, you can visit:

<http://sevendeadlysins.wordonfire.org/#study-program>.

For more information, or to register, please contact Barbara Kelly at barbara.kelly.dre@gmail.com or call 410-778-4650.

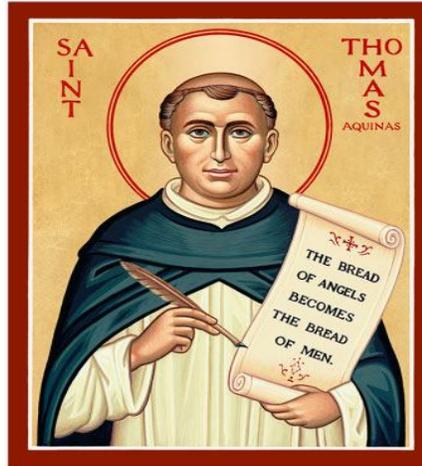
SAINTS OF JANUARY

THOMAS AQUINAS

Feast Day: January 28th

Canonized: July 18,
1323

Thomas was born in Italy around 1225 or 1227. He was Thomas of Aquino, the region in which he was born, but this has become Thomas Aquinas since that time, and that is how he is best known.



When Thomas was just five, his parents sent him to study with the Benedictine monks. He was a good student and was sent to the university in Naples at an early age to pursue more studies. He studied math, science, grammar, logic and music.

His parents had hoped from the time he was born that Thomas would become a Benedictine monk like his uncle who was the local abbot. But Thomas was drawn to the religious order founded by St. Dominic, the Dominicans. He tried to join the Dominicans, but his parents locked him in a tower of their castle. For two years they tried many different things to make him change his mind. But Thomas would not. He spent the two years studying his faith and trying to educate himself as if he was preparing for ordination.

He escaped from the castle and went immediately to join the Dominicans. After he made his vows he went to Rome and told his story to Pope Innocent IV, who told Thomas’ family they could not interfere with his vocation.

Thomas was sent to Paris and then to Cologne to study and to teach. He was an inspired writer of philosophy and theology.

He wrote more than 60 works, some of which are still popular and used today. Popes consulted with him too. One pope wanted to appoint him Archbishop of Naples, but Thomas wanted to have time instead to write and spread the truth about the faith.

Thomas believed that both faith and reason are required to reach the truth, and both come from God. He also said that some truths can only be revealed through faith. Today we refer to his thoughts as “Thomism.”

Thomas died in 1274 at Cistercian Monastery of Fossa Nuova. He was canonized by Pope John XXII in 1323 and was named a Doctor of the Church in 1567. He is the patron saint of Catholic universities and students.

PARISH NEWS

Offertory - Week Ending 01/22/16 - Week 30

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 1/22- Wk.30	\$5,064	\$1,970	\$6,346	\$688
YTD Wk. 30	\$155,014	\$29,565	\$190,380	-\$5,801

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Senta Burton with any questions at 410-778-3160, or senta.burton@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

BREAKFAST AT ST. JOHN'S: If you have joined us for breakfast before you know how good it is. If you have not, you are in for a surprise. Bring your family to breakfast following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday February 12th** in the Hall at St. John's, and enjoy a



delicious menu of fresh scrambled eggs, fried Kielbasa with eggs, peppers and cheese, crispy bacon, South Philly sausage links, 'old fashioned' home fries with caramelized onions, creamed chip beef over toast, grandmas' fluffy pancakes, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. We welcome any "family favorite" breakfast dishes that you would like to share alongside the traditional breakfast menu! There is no charge - received donations help those with need in our Parish. We look forward to seeing you there!!

LET'S DANCE for fun, smiles and exercise!! Zumba Gold® is being offered at Sacred Heart - for the active, older adult/beginner. There is no fee to our Sacred Heart & St. John's parishioners. The class is led by a certified Zumba Gold® instructor. **Classes are every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m.** in the Church Hall. Please contact Sharon Burritt at 410-708-8048 with any questions.



January is **POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH!** The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website (usccb.org) offers a calendar and daily reflections to encourage us to take up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor.

There is an immediate need right here in Chestertown at the **Samaritan Group Winter Shelter**. Volunteers are still needed as evening chaperones (5:30-11:00 p.m.) and as breakfast volunteers. In addition, Sacred Heart Parish is scheduled to provide the evening meal during the week of **February 12-18**.

If you would like more information about any of these opportunities, please e-mail Barbara Kelly at barbara.kelly.dre@gmail.com or call 410-778-4650.

"I want a Church which is poor and for the poor."
Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium

LIFE LINE SCREENING, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on **February 15, 2017**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/advantagemembers.**

OPEN HOUSE: Immaculate Conception School in Elkton is having an Open House on **January 31, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.** If you are looking for high academic standards in a Christ centered environment, ICS is for you. The Sacred Heart bus transports children to and from ICS from Chestertown and points in between. To schedule a tour, call 410-398-2636. Visit our website at icschoolweb.org for a full list of Open House events.

HOSPITAL VISITS: We are not able to access patient records from the Chester River Hospital Center. If you or someone in your family is a patient, and you wish to receive Communion, please contact the Parish Office at 410-778-3160, and provide us with the patient's name and room number and we will do our best to accommodate the request.

